Illegal mining in Joda

3262. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether illegal mining in manganese mines in Joda area is going on without proper mining lease and forest clearance, causing loss of Rs. 4000 crore to Government and royalty worth crores of rupees to State Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) A case of alleged mining relating to Rudukela and Katasahi manganese mines over an area of 96.568 hectares in Joda area has come to the notice of Government. The State Government has ordered for a vigilance enquiry in to the matter besides an administrative enquiry. Both enquiries are underway.

Status of NCM

3263. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken/being taken to provide constitution/statutory status to the National Commission for Minorities;

(b) the details of the plans in this regard; and

(c) by when it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c) In terms of the provisions of National Commission for Minority Act, 1992 National Commission for Minorities already has statutory status. The Government had introduced the Constitution (One Hundred and Third Amendment) Bill, 2004 and the National Commission for Minorities (Repeal) Bill, 2004 in order to confer the constitutional status on the National Commission for Minorities. Notices were sent to Lok Sabha Secretariat for introduction of official amendments to these Bills in February, 2009. Since the House adjourned on 26.02.2009, the official amendments could not be introduced. The Bills have lapsed with the end of term of the 14th Lok Sabha.

Grants by Maulana Azad Foundation to NGOs

3264. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB:
SHRI SABIR ALI:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of grants sanctioned by Maulana Azad Education Foundation to NGOs, which are not muslim minority institutions/organisations, during the last four years and this year, so far;

(b) the type of organisations to which grants are sanctioned under the law/schemes;

(c) whether grants to non-muslim institutions are permissible;

(d) if so, under what provision; and

(e) what percentage of total grants was sanctioned to such organisations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (d) Maulana Azad Education Foundation sanctions grants-in-aid to Non Government Organisations (NGOs) managing institutions where, *Inter alia*, number of beneficiaries from educationally backward minorities is more than 50% subject to other eligibility criteria, which are available on the Foundation's website *www.maef.nic.in.* The grants-in-aid are sanctioned on fulfillment of the prescribed conditions and the laid down eligibility criteria and not on the basis of religious affiliation of the institution and/or of the persons managing it. The list of NGOs which have been sanctioned grants-in-aid by the Foundation is available on its website *www.maef.nic.in.*

(e) Does not arise.

Grants by Maulana Azad Education Foundation to Educational Institutions

3265. SHRI SABIR ALI:
SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the educational institutions, not governed by educationally backward minorities, to which grants were given by Maulana Azad Education Foundation during the last four years and this year, so far;

(b) the provisions for sanctioning the grants;

(c) whether any deviation was made in any case; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b) Maulana Azad Education Foundation sanctions grants-in-aid to Non Government Organisations (NGOs) managing institutions, where, *Inter alia*, number of beneficiaries from educationally backward minorities is more than 50% subject to fulfillment of other eligibility criteria. For sanctioning grants-in-aid, religious affiliation of the institution and/or of the persons managing it is not the eligibility criteria. The eligibility criteria for seeking grant-in-aid from the Foundation and the list of NGOs which have been sanctioned grants -in-aid by the Foundation are available on its website *www.maef.nic.in.*

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.